



NEW JERSEY SENATE

Shirley K. Turner

1230 Parkway Ave., Suite 103, Ewing Twp., NJ 08628 (609) 323-7239
senturner@njleg.org

NEW JERSEY GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Assemblyman Reed Gusciora & Assemblywoman Elizabeth Muoio

144 W. State St., Trenton, NJ 08608 (609) 571-9638
asmgusciora@njleg.org and aswmuoio@njleg.org

November 17, 2015

Mr. Steve Tambini, Executive Director
Delaware River Basin Commission
25 State Police Drive
P.O. Box 7360
West Trenton, NJ 08628-0360

Dear Director Tambini:

Thank you for the work you and the Delaware River Basin Commission (DRBC) do to protect and manage our treasured Delaware River system.

We understand that the DRBC has notified officials of PennEast Pipeline Co. LLC that their proposed pipeline, which will run through the basin, will be reviewed by the DRBC. We further understand that the DRBC, in the interest of efficiency, intends to hold joint hearings with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC). We are writing to strongly urge you to reconsider these plans, to sever your hearings from FERC and to instead hold separate and independent hearings.

As you are aware, there is massive and intense public interest in the proposed pipeline from every community in its path. It is most likely that any hearing on the impact of this pipeline will produce a large number of individuals and organizations (in both support and opposition to the project) wanting to participate. In order to honor the true intent of the public process and to ensure a thorough consideration by the DRBC of all pertinent facts and information, it is imperative that enough time be allotted to these hearings. Including FERC in such hearings may make it difficult to achieve these goals and, considering the different jurisdictional oversight and stated missions of the DRBC and FERC, it does not seem necessary, or appropriate, for the DRBC to hold joint meetings in order to complete its review.

We acknowledge and appreciate the DRBC's decision to review the proposed PennEast Pipeline and its potential impact on the water quality and resources of the region under its management. We join the over 5700 petitioners who have asked the commission to hold *seven separate hearings in the affected communities along the pipeline route in New Jersey and Pennsylvania.*

We do not believe that a project of this scale and permanency is the appropriate time to seek "efficiencies" within the process. There is no dispute that there will be considerable environmental impact from the building of such a pipeline. While holding several meetings will require a certain investment of time and resources, such commitments are negligible considering how long we, and future generations, will have to live with the decisions made regarding the approval and/or placement of the pipeline.

Thank you in advance for your consideration. We look forward to hearing from you soon regarding this request.

Sincerely,



Shirley K. Turner, Senator
15th Legislative District



Reed Gusciora, Assemblyman
15th Legislative District



Elizabeth Maher Muoio, Assemblywoman
15th Legislative District

COPY: DRBC Commissioners – Governor Jack A. Markell, Delaware; Brigadier General William H. Graham, US Army Corp of Engineers; Governor Tom Wolf, Pennsylvania; Governor Chris Christie, New Jersey; and Governor Andrew M. Cuomo, New York.